

Chelsea Tutorials

2019 - 2020

Writing for Middle School (6th through 8th grade)

Course Description: This class is an introduction to technical writing. The students will explore topics such as:

- Identifying parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, pronouns, and compound subjects and verbs)
- Using a dictionary/thesaurus (synonyms, antonyms)
- Comparing/correcting fragments vs. run-on sentences
- Writing strong and varied sentences
- Using parallel structure
- Using strong adjectives and vivid verbs to replace “banned words”
- “Dressing up” sentences
- Identifying/constructing topic sentences
- Constructing quality paragraphs
- Eliminating redundancy in writing
- Writing to inform, entertain, persuade

Instructor: Mrs. Heidi Messer. Heidi Messer, a full-time wife and mother has worn many “professional” hats through the years. Heidi went to work as a teacher in the public-school system in Laurel, MS immediately after graduating from University of Southern Mississippi in 1996 with a B.S. in Elementary Education. She taught in the classroom for 2 years in the Laurel School District before making a shift to library science and serving as the school’s media specialist. Then, following her husband in a job transfer to Kennesaw, GA, she spent a year and a half teaching in the Georgia Pre-K Program before coming home to her serve her family full time. Her homeschooling journey began in August 2005 just days before Hurricane Katrina changed the face of the Gulf Coast. For 18 months after Katrina, she and her husband traveled with UMCOR and Samaritan’s Purse to affected areas in MS and LA, taking school and their kiddos on the road as often as possible. In the Fall of 2007 she and her family relocated to the east side of Atlanta to pursue a call to full time ministry. She joined her husband, Chris, on staff at Snellville UMC and served for 2 years as director of Before and After School Care while he served as director of missions and technical ministries. Then, in the fall of 2011, her family relocated to Chelsea, following her husband again as he made a shift back into the corporate world. Today, she and her family are active in worship, serving, and fellowship at Church of the Highlands-Greystone Campus. She is a mother of three girls; Rebecca, her oldest “graduated” homeschool student who is starting her third year at University of Tennessee Chattanooga; Emilee, her middle, who is excited to be starting college at Jeff State; and Keeghan, her youngest, is a sophomore at Chelsea High School. She also loves her fur babies, 2 dogs (Koda and Kenai) and 3 cats (Charlie, Roo, and Prim).

Contact info: phone: 678-457-9517
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Required Texts: There are currently no required materials to purchase; however, I will be using a variety of resources such as Easy Writing, IEW, and Writing Strands in addition to online resources to develop curriculum for this class. As we approach the end of summer, I reserve the right to request that you purchase a copy of Easy Writing by Wanda Phillips if I determine that it would be beneficial for your student to own a copy.

Location: Grace Presbyterian Church, PCA (located at 109 Foothills Pkwy, #104, Chelsea, AL 35043)

Day: Wednesday

Time: 12:15 - 1:45

Grade Level: 6th - 8th grade

Homework Level: 1 1/2 - 2 hours per week

Tuition and Fees:

Registration Fee: \$25 nonrefundable payable to Heidi Messer.

Tuition: \$150 per semester payable to Heidi Messer

Facility Fee: The annual facility fee for this class is \$30 per student, not to exceed \$150 per family. This fee is payable to Grace Presbyterian Church, PCA, on the first day of class.

Class Minimum: If a class minimum of 8 students is not reached, class may be cancelled. A maximum of 14 students will be accepted.